Division of Commercial Fisheries Sam Rabung, Director

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Advisory Announcement

For Immediate Release: December 2, 2020

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Eastern Aleutian District Tanner Crab 2021 Fishery Closed

Alaska Department of Fish and Game has completed analysis of the Eastern Aleutian District Tanner crab stock. The 2020 trawl survey for the Eastern Aleutian District was cancelled due to a reduced survey schedule in response to COVID-19; Unalaska/Kalekta Bay, Makushin/Skan Bay, and Akutan Sections were not surveyed. A commercial Tanner crab fishery may open only if analysis of preseason survey data indicates that the abundance of mature male Tanner crab meets or exceeds stock size thresholds established in regulation and provides for a guideline harvest level (GHL) of at least 35,000 pounds (5 AAC 35.509 Eastern Aleutian District Tanner crab harvest strategy).

Akutan Section: The Akutan Section was not surveyed in 2020 and will be closed for the 2021 season.

Makushin/Skan Bay Section: The Makushin Section was not surveyed in 2020 and will be closed for the 2021 season.

<u>Unalaska/Kalekta Bay Section:</u> The Makushin Section was not surveyed in 2020 and will be closed for the 2021 season.

For additional information, contact the Alaska Department of Fish and Game in Dutch Harbor at (907) 581-1239.

COVID-19

Under Alaska's Health Orders 5, 6, and 8, commercial fishing is an Essential Business and is part of Alaska's Essential Services and Critical Infrastructure. Commercial fishermen should ensure that all travel and other activities in support of commercial fishing operations follow protocols in Alaska COVID-19 Health Orders. COVID-19 Health Orders may be found here: https://covid19.alaska.gov/health-order/.

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